

**Denby and Cumberworth
Urban District Council.**

For

Annual Report

For the Year 1919.

Robert Richmond Archibald,

M.C., M.A., M.B., Ch.B., B.Sc.,

MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH.

PENISTONE :

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Denby and Cumberworth Urban District Council.

ANNUAL REPORT

OF THE

MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH

FOR THE YEAR ENDING DECEMBER 31st, 1919.

To the Denby & Cumberworth Urban District Council.

GENTLEMEN,

I beg to submit to you the Annual Report of the Medical Officer of Health for the year ending December 31st, 1919.

The population of the District under your charge at census 1911 was 3,681. The total population for 1919 is estimated for birth-rate purposes at 3,697, and for death-rate purposes at 3,549.

NOTE.—The death-rate population excludes all non-civilian males whether serving at home or abroad. The birth-rate population, on the other hand, is intended to include all the elements of the population contributing to the birth and marriage rates.

Physical Features. The District lies on a spur of the Pennines, the elevation ranging from 500 to 1,000 feet above sea level, and is very undulating.

Social Conditions. The social condition of the entire population maintains a general high level, there being little or no poverty in the District. The population are chiefly employed in textile mills, and there is no occupation which has any particular effect on public health.

Vital Statistics. The deaths at all ages actually registered in the District amount to 37 (19 males and 18 females). The death-rate for 1919 is 10.4, which is lower than that of 1918, when it was 12.8.

Two persons residing in the District died outside the District, so that the death-rate including these is 11.2.

The death-rate for England and Wales is 13.8.

Three children have died under one year of age. The infant death-rate per 1000 deaths registered is 52.6.

Fifty-seven births have been registered. The birth-rate, which

is 15.4, is higher than that of 1918, when it was 14.6 with fifty-five births. Three of the births are illegitimate.

The birth-rate for England and Wales is 18.5.

As regards the causes of death, the following are the statistics: one of diphtheria, four of influenza, three of pulmonary tuberculosis, three of cancer, one of meningitis, five of organic heart disease, five of bronchitis, four of pneumonia, two of other respiratory diseases, one of congenital debility, and ten of other defined diseases.

SANITARY CIRCUMSTANCES OF THE DISTRICT.

Water Supply. There have been no developments during 1919. There was some shortage at Denby during the summer months, which was referred to in the Annual Report of 1918. There was also a considerable shortage at Lower Cumberworth in the autumn. The re-occurrence of these shortages should be prevented if possible (see infectious diseases para.).

Rivers and Streams. There is no pollution injurious to public health that I know of.

Drainage and Sewerage. The District is largely supplied with a satisfactory system of sewers and outfall works.

Closest Accommodation. There are in the District eight privies with open middens, 638 with covered middens, and 86 water-closets. During the year three privies have been reconstructed—one as a w.c. The Council have now provided the District with a good system of sewers, and they should definitely decide that in every case where a privy is unsatisfactory the conversion to water carriage system should be insisted upon. The general and gradual change of the whole district to water carriage is extremely desirable.

Scavenging. This system appears to work as well as possible under the circumstances.

The total annual cost is £213 10s. 7d (manual labour £91 9s. 4d., teams £122 1s. 3d.). There were approximately 3,437 loads, which works out at 1s. 2½d. per load.

Sanitary Inspection of the District. 517 inspections have been made and 24 nuisances found. In eleven of these the nuisance was abated and thirteen are still in hand. The nuisances discovered comprise the following:—

Defective drains	...	...	...	1
Choked drains	...	...	...	3
Insanitary ashbins	...	...	...	4
Insanitary privies	...	...	...	10
Offensive deposits	...	...	...	1
Water in cellar	...	...	...	1
Dirty houses	...	...	...	3
Keeping of pigs	...	...	...	1

The premises visited comprise:—

Premises where no nuisance was found, 214; premises where nuisances were found, 24; slaughter-houses, 37; butchers' shops, 18; works in progress, 20; property under notice, 114; owners, 26; cowsheds, 13; piggeries, 7; workshops, 5; infected houses, 19; van dwellings, 9; schools, 11.

Twenty-four informal notices were served, and eleven complied with. Four statutory notices were served, and none were complied with.

Cowsheds. The sheds number 63, and 13 inspections have been made. These were fair. There are 58 registered milk-sellers in the District. No cases of disease attributed to milk are reported.

There are three registered **Slaughter-houses**, all satisfactory.

Infectious Diseases. In the early part of the year there was a bad epidemic of measles, 136 cases being notified. This occurred in the time of my predecessor.

In the autumn a short, sharp epidemic of diphtheria took place in Lower Cumberworth. This latter coincided with the shortage of water already referred to. All cases were promptly removed to hospital, and everything done to prevent further spread of the infection.

There is no difficulty in the supply of diphtheria anti-toxin.

The County Bacteriological Laboratory is used in all cases where bacteriological examination is necessary.

One case of cerebro-spinal meningitis occurred, which proved fatal. All precautions as to contacts, isolation, and disinfection were taken.

During the year 6 cases of scarlet fever, 136 measles, 3 pulmonary tuberculosis, 2 erysipelas, 10 diphtheria have been notified to me under the Infectious Disease (Notification) Act. One case of ophthalmia neonatorum was reported. The case was very slight and did not cause permanent injury to either eye.

Housing. In reference to housing, a proper survey has not yet been carried out. It is anticipated that a survey will reveal many cases of houses not reasonably fit, of overcrowding, and of more than one family per house. Arrangements are in hand, however, for a survey to be carried out in conjunction with the Regional Office at Leeds.

Copies of this report have been sent to the Ministry of Health and the County Council.

I am, gentlemen, Yours obediently,

ROBERT RICHMOND ARCHIBALD,

M.C., M.A., M.B., Ch.B., B.Sc.,

Medical Officer of Health.

TABLE C, 1919.

Denby and Cumberworth Urban Sanitary District.

WATER SUPPLY—

Any developments during 1919—No.
Any insufficiency, and where—No, except shortage at Denby in summer, and Lower Cumberworth in autumn.
Any unsatisfactory quality, and where—

DRAINAGE AND SEWERAGE—

Any developments during 1919—No.
Developments still needed—
Want of sewers—Nil.
Improvement of defective sewers—Nil.
Any inadequacy of Sewage Disposal Works or complaints as to smells—No.
Are there any sink-wastes still needing disconnection—No.

CLOSET ACCOMMODATION—

No. of Privies with open middens—8. No. of Pail or Tub Closets—0.
No. of Privies with covered middens—638: No. of Water Closets—86; Waste Water Closets—0.
No. of Privies re-constructed during 1919—(a) as W.C.'s, 1; (b) other, 2
No. of additional Closets provided for old property in 1919—(a) W.C.'s, 0 (b) other, 0
No. of Closets constructed in 1919 for new houses—(a) W.C.'s, 0; (b) other, 0

SCAVENGING—

Any change during 1919?—No.
How is refuse disposed of? No. of loads (3,437) to (a) Destructor—None. (b) Tips—Mostly. (c) Farmers—Few. (d) Total annual cost—£213 10s. 7d.
Is there any inadequacy and where?—No.

NUISANCE INSPECTIONS—

Total No. of Inspections made in 1919—517.
Informal Notices served—24. Complied with—11
Statutory Notices served—4. Complied with—0
Total number of Nuisances in hand at close of 1918—20 At close of 1919—13. Reported during 1919—24. Abated during 1919—11
Total No. of Summonses or other Legal Proceedings—None.

REGULATED BUILDINGS, TRADES, &c.—

Common Lodging Houses—No. in District, 0; total No. of Inspections made, ; general condition—
Canal Boats—0
Knackers' Yards—0
Offensive Trades—No. in District, 0; No. on Register, 0; Total No. of Inspections made, 0; General Condition,
Have the Council declared any other processes to be offensive trades, *e.g.*, Fish-frying, Maggot-breeding, etc.—No.

SCHOOLS—

No. of Visits to Schools—Several.
Action taken—Nil.

MILK SUPPLY—

No. of samples taken by Officers of S.A. for analysis under F. & D. Acts—None. No. adulterated—Nil.
No. of samples taken by Officers of S.A. for bacteriological examination—None.
What arrangement for Veterinary Inspection of Dairy Cows—Expert to be called if necessary.
Any instance of disease attributed to milk in 1919—No.
No. of Cowkeepers in district—58 No. registered—58
No. of Milk Sellers who are also Cowkeepers—20. No. who are Purveyors only—38 Total No. registered—58
Total No. of Cowsheds—63; No. of Inspections in 1919—13; general condition—Fair.
Approx. No. of Milch Cows in District—248 Any insufficiency in Milk Supply—No.
Legal proceedings under D.C.M. Orders—None.
Any Inspection or other action by Districts to which Milk is sent—No.
Milk (Mothers and Children) Order, 1919. Any action?—Nil

OTHER FOODS—

No. of samples (other than Milk) taken by Officer of S.A. for examination under the Food & Drugs Acts—None. No. adulterated—
No. of seizures of unsound food—None. Kind and quality—
No. of Prosecutions—
No. of Slaughter Houses—3: No. registered—3; kind and condition—Modern, satisfactory.
No. of Prosecutions (*a*) Food and Drugs, 0; (*b*) Unsound Food, 0; (*c*) *re* Slaughter Houses, 0.
No. of Bakehouses—0.
Is there a Public Abattoir?—No.

FACTORIES AND WORKSHOPS—

Any Smoke Nuisance, and where—No.
No. of Smoke observations taken—Nil. No. of cautions—Nil.
Legal notices—Nil. Summonses—Nil.

ADOPTIVE ACTS—

Any adopted during 1919—None.

BYE-LAWS AND REGULATIONS -

Any adopted during 1919—No.

Are any other Bye-laws needed—No.

INFECTIOUS AND OTHER DISEASES—

What diseases have been specially prevalent in 1919—Measles.

Any diseases specially added to notifiable list—No.

Any influences threatening the health of the District—No.

SPECIAL REPORTS AND INVESTIGATIONS.

None.

TUBERCULOSIS—

Inspection of Patient's home and workshop—Yes.

Examination for contacts—Yes. Disinfection—Yes.

Distribution of Advice Leaflets?—No.

Action *re* Spitting?—Yes.

Shelters provided—When required. Is sputum examined—Yes.

Tuberculous Dispensaries.—Any suggestions—No.

BACTERIOLOGY—

Is County Laboratory utilized—Yes. Any suggestions—No.

INFANTILE MORTALITY—

What organised effort to control it?—None.

Any suggestions—

Any Voluntary Centres for Child or Mother Welfare?—No.

Causes of any excessive Infant Mortality in 1919—

VITAL STATISTICS—

BIRTHS during 1919—Males, 30 : Females, 27 : Total, 57.

Number illegitimate included in the above—3.

Number of Still Births (not included)—0

DEATHS DURING 1919—(1) Gross Deaths, *i.e.*, Total actually registered in the district, without any correction—37

(2) Nett Deaths on which the rates are calculated—Males 20, Females 19, Total 39.

Number of uncertified deaths included in the above—None.

MORTUARIES—

What mortuary accommodation (*a*) for accidents—None.

(*b*) for infectious cases other than at Hospital—None.

SANITARY STAFF—

What is the present Annual Salary of M.O.H.—£30.

Name of Sanitary Inspector—Thomas Edwin Williams.

Annual Salary as Inspector—£64 16s. 0d.

Other appointments held—Sanitary Inspector for four districts combined for sanitary purposes.

Salary for such other appointments—£175 4s. 0d.

Any Assistants—No.

Is Staff sufficient—Am not in a position to judge as yet.

SUPPLEMENTARY REMARKS as to Sanitary Requirements of District, Suggestions of Medical Officer of Health, and extended notes from any of the foregoing entries.

Summary of Housing Work during 1919.

No. inspected under the Act and regulations in 1919—

Houses found satisfactory on inspection—

Houses found with defects—

Houses made fit after preliminary notice—

Houses in regard to which notices were served to remedy defects—

Houses made fit after notice—

Houses found to be totally unfit for habitation under Section 17, 1909—

No. of representations made with a view to making Closing Orders—

No. of Closing Orders made—

No. of Houses with defects remedied without Closing Orders—

No. of Houses made fit after Closing Orders made—

Houses with defects not disposed of at end of 1919 :—

Houses not reasonably fit for human habitation (Section 15) 1909, or
(Section 28) 1919—

Houses with minor defects (Public Health Acts)—

Houses totally unfit for human habitation (Section 17) 1909—

General character of defects found—

Other action in regard to Housing :—

Total number of houses in district—836

Number of working-class houses—700

General standard compared with that of the Ministry of Health in Manual Vol. I., 1919—Unsatisfactory. A proper survey has not yet been carried out. It is anticipated that a survey will reveal many houses not reasonably fit, overcrowding, and more than one family per house.

Obstructive Buildings.—Any building represented by M.O.H. under Sec. 38 (1) of 1890 Act?—No.

Result of action (if any)—Nil.

Any building represented by inhabitant householders under Sec. 38 (2)—No.

Re-construction Schemes.—Have L.A. directed any to be prepared under Sec. 39 of 1890 Act—Nil.

Unfit Houses.—Any complaints by inhabitant householders under Sec. 31 of 1890 Act—No.

Any complaints by Parish Council under Sec. 6 (2) of the Local Government Act, 1894—No.

Any action by Public Utility Societies—No.

Any action under Small Dwellings Acquisition Act, 1899—No.

Any scarcity of houses, if so, where?—Not known until survey is carried out.

Any overcrowding of persons in houses, and where?—Yes.

No. of cases of overcrowding dealt with during 1919?—Nil.

Any special activity in house building, and where?—No.

Number of new houses built during 1919 (a) Working-class dwellings—0.
(b) Other—0.

State-aided Housing Schemes.

Has Scheme been submitted as required by Section 1 of 1919 Act—
Yes.

Estimated need for 10 houses. Scheme for 10 houses.

Any regulations made in respect of underground sleeping rooms under
Section 17 (7)?—No. Any action in respect of such rooms—No.

Town Planning.

Any scheme prepared during 1919?—No.

Any scheme contemplated? If so, for what area?—No.

Name and address of Officer designated to make inspections under
Article II. of Housing (Inspection of District) Regulations 1910?—
Thomas Edwin Williams, Station Road, Shepley.